



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

JAN-MAR 2023

VOL. 35, ISSUE 1

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: THE SOCIETY NEEDS YOUR HELP

The Falmouth Genealogical Society is poised to begin a new chapter in many areas of its work; these areas include marketing, membership development, programs and community outreach.



JERRY LUBY
PRESIDENT

change and we need your help!

There are a number of ways to get involved: join a committee or join the board. We would love to have the benefit of your thoughts and expertise!

We're looking for Society members who have an interest or experience in these areas to join with the current Board members to increase awareness and engagement of the Society with the general area population.

We need your skills and your can-do attitude to increase our impact and presence in the community. Many residents may not know of our existence. This needs to

Committees/areas include: cemetery, finance, help sessions, membership, programs, newsletter, publications and website. If you can assist in any of these areas, or if you have any suggestions on how to improve our Society, please contact me at jluby02@aol.com.

thank you!

POPCORN ROUNDTABLE A SUCCESS

By Ralph Wadleigh



A most interesting monthly meeting of the Falmouth Genealogical Society (FGS) was held at the Falmouth Public Library during the morning of December 10, 2022. The get together featured a "popcorn" round table discussion of these ten questions:

1. Tell about any Christmas/Holiday present that you especially enjoyed as a young child.
2. How did your interest in genealogy start?

3. Tell about your most recent immigrant ancestor – or is it yourself!
4. Tell about any recent -generation brick wall or mystery you may have.
5. To what generation is your pedigree tree complete?
6. Have you tested with a DNA company? Which companies and tests?
7. If you have DNA ethnicity results – what are your primary or puzzling ethnicities?
8. What activity or talk do you wish FGS would do or present?

(cont'd. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Falmouth Public Library
Hermann Foundation Room
AND Virtually via Zoom
Unless Noted Otherwise
See Falgen.org for
Updated Info*

Sat., Jan. 14 @ 10:30 am

"Using MyHeritage for finding European DNA Matches"

*With Daniel Horowitz
Genealogist from MyHeritage
(via ZOOM from Israel)*

Sat. Feb. 11 @ 10:30 am

"Allegiance: The Life and Times of William Eustis"

With Tamsen George, Author

Sat., Mar. 11 @ 10:30 am

"Breathe Life into Your Genealogy through the Power of Story"

*With William Cole
The Passionate Genealogist*

Sat., Apr. 15 @ 10:30 am

"Choosing a Genealogical Software Program"

*With Rhonda McClure
NEHGS Senior Genealogist*

May 3—6

**17th NERGC Conference
Springfield, MA**

*66 Speakers/113 Presentations
See page 6*

Sat., May 13 @ 10:30 am

"Researching England's Records"

*William Cole
The Passionate Genealogist*

Sat., June 10 @ 10:30 am

**"Alien Files Boot Camp"
Government Immigrant Files**

*Alec Ferretti
Professional Genealogist*

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council

*offers programs
See [MGC Home](http://MGCHome)
(massgencouncil.org)*

POPCORN QUESTIONS

(cont'd. from page 1)

9. In your genealogical work in which activity or website do you spend most of your time?

10. Is there a website or society membership that you find particularly beneficial?

Ten members attended in person and four attended via zoom. The in-person attendees were arranged in a circle and, starting with question one, each proceeded to describe their favorite childhood present. Erector sets, Betsy Wetsy dolls, trips to see Santa, a radio and a microscope were among the gifts recalled. The process continued to question two, where more than a few persons credited a grandparent or another close relative with starting their genealogical journey. Some were moved by Henry Louis Gates'

"Finding Your Roots" programs, and others were moved by inherited health issues or a rumored Mayflower line. Question three revealed a broad range of immigrant histories both early and recent. Source countries included Ireland, Cape Verde, England, Germany, Holland, and Eastern Europe.

Since so much time had been consumed considering the first three questions, it became necessary to limit the number of additional questions to be covered. A vote was taken to select just two more. Numbers four and eight were chosen. Attendees then described a variety of brick walls which encouraged others to make suggestions for additional research. Attendees were looking for

Theodore Burkner, the parents of Elizabeth Thornton, John Calvin Scott and Jehel Richardson in case a reader might know of these names! Number eight brought out suggestions including a program on religious organization records, field trips, a writing workshop and community outreach activities, all of which should be addressed by the FGS Board.

Coffee and seasonal treats including popcorn were served. All agreed that it was a wonderful experience because individuals were able to describe their family histories and research specialties. Everyone expressed their appreciation to Tim Martin for conceptualizing and presenting the idea.

Let's do it again sometime!

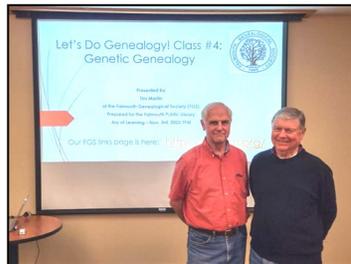
Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access speakers' notes and most presentations on YouTube. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, falgen.org, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes and Videos. If you need the password, please contact Tim Martin at fgsvicepresident@gmail.com.

Note: FGS YouTube videos are now indexed into chapters. This allows the viewer to identify named segments and quickly go to desired ones.

"LET'S DO GENEALOGY SERIES" HELD AT LIBRARY

By Tim Martin



TIM MARTIN AND RALPH WADLEIGH

At the request of Falmouth Public Library, Falmouth Genealogical Society presented a series of four talks entitled "Let's Do Genealogy" for their Joy of Learning Series on four Thursday eve-

nings beginning October 6. The talks were presented live at the library and via Zoom.

Individual titles presented by Tim Martin and Ralph Wadleigh included: "Overview of Genealogy" with Tim and Ralph, "Researching Sources" with Tim; "Building a Family Tree and Applying to Lineage Societies" with Tim and Ralph; and "Genetic Genealogy" with Tim. (Classes 3 & 4 were each pushed forward

one week due to an Internet outage at FPL on October 20th!)

There were roughly 13-19 Zoom attendees, and 3-4 in person. It's fair to say that we bit off a lot of material for each of the classes. A PDF handout, rich with hotlinks to websites, and an associated video of each class is available at a public area of our website. The effort put into these four presentations should be useful again soon.

THE 1861 EARLE REPORT ON NATIVE AMERICANS IN MASSACHUSETTS

Andrew Pierce, a professional genealogist for almost 40 years, spoke at St. Peter's Church in Osterville for the annual joint presentation cosponsored with the Cape Cod Genealogical Society. He began his first of two talks by acknowledging being on Wampanoag territory. He said an excellent book, "Indian Deeds: Land Transactions In Plymouth Colony, 1620-1691" by Jeremy Bangs, explains this territory was bought in 1648 from Popmonit, whose descendants still live locally.

"The 1861 Earle Report On Native Americans In Massachusetts" was a milestone document both historically and genealogically. In 1859 John Milton Earle was appointed commissioner to examine the condition of Indians in the Commonwealth and report to the Governor. (The term "Indian" was used at the time and Pierce uses it alternately with "Native American," to be more politically correct.) The 1861 report was published as Massachusetts Senate Report No. 96. Report to the Governor and Council concerning the Indians of the Commonwealth. It includes a "census" with names, ages, sex, tribal membership or residence, condition



R. ANDREW PIERCE
PROFESSIONAL GENEALOGIST

(married/widow/widower), occupation, personal property value. After evangelization, they took surnames from their ancestors' single names and from marriages to blacks. Eventually all had surnames.

The report has been used as a genealogical reference by many Massachusetts area tribes to determine tribal membership eligibility. Because they were not citizens and not taxed, Indians didn't always appear on census records or birth and marriage registries. So the report was the first time some appeared. Earle's notes from prison books of ages and birthplaces are priceless because originals are lost. Records fastidiously note percentage of mixed blood, helping find grandparents. Although the Report is the best benchmark for American citizenship, Natives whose ancestors were not included find it harder to qualify.

Earle (1794 – 1874) was a Quaker, anti-slave progressive from Worcester County who served in the House of Representatives and Senate as well as in other political posts.

He collected papers from local entities, maps, surveys, correspondence, and legal documents back to the 1700's and even some from descendants of early 1600 Natives. All are available at the American Antiquarian Society, Worcester. Letters sent by Indian groups delineated family marriages and births and noted where they went.

Towns cared for their paupers but, since Indians didn't reside in towns, the state cared for them. Many lived a roving, unsettled life. Nearly all males worked in seafaring vocations; 150 lived in New Bedford. Most intermixed with whites and blacks so there was no pure native race reported. Though many had died of disease when they interacted with fishermen before explorers arrived, as well as from smallpox epidemics every few decades, they later developed resistance

(cont'd. from page 5)

See page 4 for Andrew Pierce's second November presentation on Irish Research.



Need HELP
with your Research?
Zoom sessions
free to members
Team Up!
with FGS volunteers
to move you forward!
More information
at falgen.org

MAKING THE IRISH GENEALOGICAL CONNECTION FROM MASSACHUSETTS

By Phyllis Day

After a much-anticipated lobster roll lunch, Andrew Pierce continued his November 12th program with “Making the Irish Genealogical Connection from Massachusetts.”



county and maybe the townland where the petitioner was born and raised.

Pierce relies on Ancestry for these Irish records: Birth Index 1864-1958; Marriages and Death Indexes 1864-1958; as well as, Catholic Parish records 1655-1915. Irish-genealogy.ie is a free Irish government website covering birth, marriage and death records. These records are full of information for family background. Rootsireland.ie is a paid subscription but an excellent source for Catholic records.

Ancestry also has Tithe Applotment books 1805-1837, Valuation records 1824-1856 and Griffith’s Valuation 1847-1864 for property records.

Research can be done at the National Library of Ireland, the National Archives of Ireland, the [Public Record Office of Northern Ireland \(PRONI\)](http://Public Record Office of Northern Ireland) and individual county library and archive sites.

The best sites for newspaper records are the British Newspaper Archive and the Irish Newspaper Archive but both appear to be paid subscription sites.

Pierce’s talk was a full hour of information. Examples of his searches were appropriate to illustrate his search methods and results. To optimize searching, go to the Members Only section of the Society website and download the five-page handout. You won’t regret it. Happy searching!

(Andrew Pierce’s first presentation is on page 3.)

Using Ancestry.com because it is the best indexed, he said “wild cards” in searches are better than Soundex especially for spelling and transcription errors pre-1900. This method allows for a more thorough search of names with multiple characters and has been suggested by several speakers to our Society.

Massachusetts birth records show only that our Irish relatives came from Ireland. Census records aren’t any different. However, Boston Archdiocese Sacramental Records from 1789 to 1920 can be very useful. Baptismal records list godparents, who are usually relatives or extended family and give information from where. This information can be extremely helpful in tracking families. He also suggested asking for church records of all children in the family and to send along a donation for the needs of the Parish.

Ancestry has Massachusetts Naturalization records from 1798-1950 as does Family Search. The Declaration and Petition for Citizenship could contain the

Pierce said there is a general index to pension files in the Civil War Pension Papers. These files usually contain marriage information, children, residences, maybe some medical information and information of location when filing for the pension.

Passenger lists evolved. Those arriving pre-1891 show country of birth. After 1891 all this helpful information was required: age at last birthday, birth town, residence before boarding, parent with their location in Ireland, final destination, who they are going to and at what address.

Useful newspaper sites are newspapers.com, accessed through Ancestry; and Genealogy Bank, a paid subscription. An Ancestry catalog lists a 6-volume set, “Missing Friends,” from the Boston Pilot between 1831 to 1920, which contains advertisements placed to find Irish friends and families.

Massachusetts wills and probate records 1635-1991 can be found at Ancestry. Family Search also has some records from individual counties in the state. Ancestry has searchable City Directories from 1822-1995.



Welcome Members

The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society this quarter:

*Janice Bowerman
James Cotter
Mary Louise Klimm
Stephen Lynch
Penelope McGill
Robert O’Toole
Carolyn Powers*

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at upcoming meetings.



THE 1861 EARLE REPORT

to disease and survived by intermarrying.

Earle believed Natives should not be treated as objects of charity but rather as citizens with all the rights of others. He offered three options: leave Indians as they were, place them at once on the same equal footing as other inhabitants or adopt a proposed plan of commissioners. He recom-

mended the latter because some Natives wanted to vote and others didn't want to become citizens. Some were afraid the reservation would be broken up once land could be sold (as did later happen). But all wanted the justice so long delayed. He concluded that, "not all tribes could be compatibly with the good of themselves and that of other inhabitants, immedi-

ately and completely on the same footing as other inhabitants of the Commonwealth."

Virtually all tribes, however small, are in existence today though some may have reemerged. An index to the census database from The 1861 report is available on AmericanAncestors.org.

See the note on page 2 about meeting handouts.

(cont'd. from page 3)

Find all
the latest
updates on FGS
events any time
Online. See the
Calendar at
[falgen.org!](http://falgen.org)

FERRETTI RECOMMENDS "THINKING OUTSIDE THE (SEARCH) BOX ON ANCESTRY"

By Tim Martin

The October 15th, 2022 FGS meeting was presented by professional genealogist [Alec Ferretti](#) via Zoom. Alec Ferretti is a New-York-City-based professional genealogist, who works for the [Wells Fargo Family & Business History Center](#), researching family histories for high net-worth clients. Alec specializes in the genealogy of 20th century immigrants to the United States. He is a regular lecturer at genealogical societies and conferences. He serves as the President of the New York Genealogy & Technology Group, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the [Association of Professional Genealogists](#), and serves actively on the Board of [Reclaim the Records](#), a nonprofit dedicated to wrangling public records from obstinate government agen-



ALEC FERRETTI
PROFESSIONAL
GENEALOGIST

cies. Alec is truly a young wizard with genealogy!

His talk was titled: "Thinking Outside the (Search) Box: Ancestry Search Strategies". Alec discussed the many vagaries of indexing and organizing genealogical records: transcription errors, spelling errors, searching for a field that was not indexed, place names not standardized, or changing with time. E.G. searching the 1910 U.S. Census on Ancestry.com



for all people in Brooklyn yields less than 1000 results, all whom are in fact not even living in Brooklyn! Because of how Ancestry.com organized the New York City 1910 census data, the Brooklyn area is keyed to the county "Queens" rather than the borough "Brooklyn." Thus the theme of the talk: when getting funky results from a search it behooves us to play with the search terms and interface to reveal the underlying organization or problems.

(cont'd. on page 6)

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**

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Website: www.falgen.org

COMMITTED TO
PRESERVING PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE RECORDS AND
ENCOURAGING OTHERS IN
THE PERFORMANCE OF
GENEALOGICAL
RESEARCH

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Secretary
Ralph Wadleigh

The Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

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THINKING OUTSIDE THE ANCESTRY SEARCH) BOX

(cont'd. from page 5)

Example items from Alec's brilliant list of search strategies – flexibility is the key:

- ◆ Search with broad localities that are less subject to change names between collections.
- ◆ Search fields that are less likely to be misspelled – e.g., leave a difficult surname out of the search.
- ◆ Understand which letters might be mistaken from each other.
- ◆ Make heavy use of wildcards: * for one or more characters and “?” for a single character.
- ◆ Always look at the original record before ignoring potentially relevant search results.
- ◆ Switch the given name and the surname, sometimes they are reversed on the record.
- ◆ By searching a specific collection, it is often possible to search additional fields. The 1910 census for example, allows one to search by birthplace of the parents, a field that is not available from the generic search page.

After the Q&A period Alec shared with us several examples of the great work being accomplished by the Reclaim the Records group of which he is a board member.

This talk MUST be seen by all who desire to use Ancestry.com productively. Go to our website Members Only area to pick up the handout and review this excellent talk before it is removed!

**NERGC Conference
May 3–6
Springfield, MA**



REMINDER—4 MONTHS TO GO

The 17th NERGC (New England Regional Genealogical Consortium) Conference will be held at MassMutual Center, Springfield, May 3-6, 2023. There will be special tracks and other events on Wednesday, regular conference presentations on Thursday thru Saturday plus the Exhibit Hall, and Ancestors Road Show.

The Featured Speakers are Dr. Michael D. Lacopo and Rich Venezia, who was a member of Genealogy Roadshow's research team. The Program Committee has scheduled 133 presentations—101 at the conference, 20 for the Wednesday programs, 5 at meals, and 7 at workshops. There will be 66 speakers from the across the country.

Registration is now open!

To get up-to-date info sign up for the e-zine at nergc.org/e-zines. Information regarding registration, meals for the various events, and sign up for the Ancestors Road Show is posted online, covered in the e-zines and available at NERGC.org.

Potential attendees with food, mobility, hearing, or visual concerns are welcome to contact Pam Roberts, NERGC 2023 Accessibility Liaison, at accessibility@nergc.org with a request for a personal response.

If you are able to help fulfill FGS's conference volunteer commitment, please contact Jerry Luby, jluby02@aol.com.



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

APR-JUNE 2023

VOL. 35, ISSUE 2

"USING MYHERITAGE FOR FINDING EUROPEAN DNA MATCHES"

By *Tim Martin*

Daniel Horowitz spoke with us on January 14 via Zoom from his home office in Israel. He is a frequent presenter for MyHeritage at genealogy conferences around the world. His useful four-page handout and video recording of the talk will be available for a few more months in the FGS website Members Only area.



DANIEL HOROWITZ
GENEALOGIST
MYHERITAGE.COM

One of the niches that MyHeritage occupies in the genetic genealogy world is they have the largest group of DNA testers outside of the USA, being strong, for instance, in European testers. So those of us with European ancestors and looking for DNA matches in Europe to confirm our lineage theories are well advised to utilize MyHeritage. MyHeritage has been selling DNA kits in almost every country of the world since 2016, collecting samples via cheek swabs, considered easier than saliva collection. Also be aware that raw DNA data from other companies can be uploaded for analysis and matching at MyHeritage.

Daniel stated this initial cautionary word: "Even though we do genealogy and we think we know our family trees completely; people can

lie, records can lie, but DNA doesn't lie." Be aware that you may find surprises and even skeletons in the closet and need to be thoughtful and considerate of those involved.

MyHeritage has launched a free "cM Explainer" web page allowing you to in-

vestigate the probability of various relationships between two matches based on shared cM and the birth dates of the two testers. They have also adopted a new wording for relationship types that you may begin to see being used in the genealogical community and is thought to be easier to understand. For instance, instead of saying "first cousin once removed" we can say "son of your first cousin." Find this important tool, cM Explainer, here MyHeritage.com under DNA Tools.

At MyHeritage and other DNA websites it is very important that you upload an accurate-as-possible family tree for yourself and connect your known DNA matches to the proper individuals in your tree, often adding them to your tree as needed. That information is then used by various vendor tools to tell you with greater accuracy where

(cont'd. on page 2)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Falmouth Public Library
Hermann Foundation Room
AND Virtually via Zoom
Unless Noted Otherwise
See Falgen.org for
Updated Info*

Sat., May 13 @ 10:30 am

"A Grave Mistake? The English Origins of Old Comer Thomas Clark"

*With William Cole
The Passionate Genealogist*

Sat., June 10 @ 10:30 am

**ANNUAL MEETING and
"Rootless: A Retrospective Look at America's Fascination with its Ancestry"**

*With Jill Morelli
Certified Genealogist*

Sat., July 8 @ 10:30 am

"US Citizenship & Immigration Services Genealogy Resources"

*With Alec Ferretti, Director
Association of Professional Genealogists*

Sat., August @ 10:30 am

To Be Announced

Sat., Sept. 9 @ 10:30 am

"Write as You Go!"

*With Elissa Scalise Powell
Certified Genealogist*

Sat., Nov. 18 @ 10:30 am

Annual Joint Meeting with Cape Cod Genealogical Soc.
"Google Search Strategies for Common Surnames"

"Inspiring Ways to Capture the Interest of Non-Genealogists"

*With Lisa Louise Cooke
Writer/Producer/Host
@St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Osterville*

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council

*offers programs
See MGC Home
(massgencouncil.org)*

"USING MYHERITAGE FOR FINDING EUROPEAN DNA MATCHES"

(cont'd. from page 1)

your unknown DNA matches may fit in. The MyHeritage tools that leverage the DNA+FamilyTree information are "Theory of Family Relativity" and "Smart Matches." When examining DNA matches at MyHeritage make use of the many available filters to select matches based on varying criteria. When communicating with matches overseas it is generally advised to initially communicate in English. The overseas matches will often be better equipped than you to navigate multiple languages.

An important feature to understand at MyHeritage DNA is "Triangulation" which identifies segments of DNA that are identical between three or more matches, allowing you to know that these triangulated segments were passed on to all of these matches from the same common ancestor. So if you know how you relate to one of these triangulated matches, you can say with significant certainty that the other matches that triangulate on that segment connect to you via that same common ancestor.

MyHeritage has recently created a free and new "Introduction to Genealogy Course" in 40 short lessons of five-hours total duration. This is all within the MyHeritage Knowledge Base where you will find additional useful content. If you enjoy podcasts, checkout the "Blast From My Past" podcast by MyHeritage using your favorite podcast service. These are from a variety of presenters describing a fruitful research project and how they accomplished it.

Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access speakers' notes and most presentations on YouTube. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, falgen.org, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes and Videos. If you need the password, please contact Tim Martin at fgsvicpresident@gmail.com.

"ALLEGIANCE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF WILLIAM EUSTIS - REVOLUTION AND RESEARCH"

By Dottie Priestley



TAMSEN GEORGE
AUTHOR AND FALMOUTH
RESIDENT

On February 11 Falmouth resident and writer, Tamsen George, gave a research-specific, humor-filled talk about researching her recently published book, "Allegiance: The Life and Times of William Eustis." She added, "Revolution and Research," to the title for

this talk. She'd never written nonfiction and was required to document *everything*. It took her eight years.

Tamsen decided to write Eustis' biography after discovering not much was known about him at Shirley Place, where he was the final resident and where she worked in nonprofit administration. Originally the country house of the Province of Massachusetts Bay's Royal Governor, William Shirley, it was built on the Dorchester/Roxbury line in 1747.

She decided William Eustis was the Forest Gump of the

Revolution – he knew everybody! Dr. Joseph Warren's house, where Eustis lived for two years as the doctor's apprentice, was near the Green Dragon Tavern, meeting place of the Sons of Liberty - Sam Adams, John Hancock, Paul Revere and others.

Eustis' adventures as a doctor took him to the siege lines in Cambridge and Bunker Hill, then to surgeon in the Continental Army in the Hudson Highlands with George Washington. He was an eyewitness to many famous events including being in the room at West Point

(cont'd. on page 5)

FGS YouTube videos are indexed into chapters. This allows the viewer to identify named segments and quickly go to desired ones.

RHONDA MCCLURE – CHOOSING GENEALOGICAL SOFTWARE”

By Ralph Wadleigh

What’s *almost* more sacred than one’s ancestors? Their genealogical software program – that’s what! Most people new to genealogy seek suggestions as to the best software program available for them to employ and more experienced researchers want to know if the software they are using best fits their needs. Rhonda McClure addressed these concerns via Zoom to the Falmouth Genealogical Society on Saturday, April 15, 2023, by outlining the features of ten of the more commonly used genealogical software programs. McClure is well qualified to make this presentation being a Senior Genealogist at Boston’s New England Historic and Genealogical Society (NEHGS) as well as the editor of the 6th edition of *The Genealogist’s Handbook for New England Research*.

Here alphabetically, are the ten programs she covered:

Ancestral Quest; Brother’s Keeper; Family Tree Maker; Heredis; iFamily; Legacy; MacFamilyTree; Reunion; and Roots Magic.

She pointed out **five essential features** that any software program should contain:



RHONDA MCCLURE
SENIOR GENEALOGIST
AMERICAN ANCESTORS/
NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Data Entry – constitutes the most important aspect of genealogical software. Name variations, date variations and place identifications must be recorded correctly. She noted that the software’s ability to record source information is vitally important. The source information recorded in the database should allow you or others to directly access the source, by allowing data entry of the title, volume, page etc.

Merging Duplicates – software must allow the comparison of persons with similar event records. These duplicates can turn up in early colonial records when only a woman’s first name is known. Duplicates can also arise when importing a GEDCOM file. McClure prefers a manual merge function over an automatic merge function.

Basic Reports – software should allow you to produce a variety of reports such as family group sheets and multi-generational (pedigree) charts. These reports are useful for sharing information when traveling or to highlight missing life events for further research. A good software package will also enable one to produce narrative style reports employing genealogical publishing styles. These reports should incorporate source information in the form of footnotes or endnotes.

Reliability Checks – software must point out when incorrect data is entered. For example, a 66-year-old mother, or a marriage following date of birth. Spell checkers should be included. These tools prevent obvious errors leaking into your records.

Technical Support – Good software programs have robust technical support. There will be times when you have questions; answers should be readily available through a variety of channels.

McClure also covered the steps necessary to move files to a new software program. This usually involves creating a GEDCOM file

(cont’d. on page 6)



Welcome Members

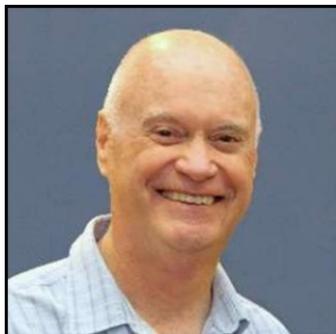
The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society this quarter:

John Bowers
Linda Bowers
Susanne Brown
Kimberly Costa
Deborah Shaw

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at upcoming meetings.

BILL COLE TELLS HOW TO “BREATHE LIFE INTO YOUR GENEALOGY WITH THE POWER OF STORY”

By Caroline Anderson



BILL COLE
THE PASSIONATE
GENEALOGIST

Everyone Has a Story. Everyone Loves a Good Story.

On March 11, William E. “Bill” Cole gave a lively and informative presentation, “Breathe Life into Your Genealogy with the Power of Story”.

Bill believes that it is the responsibility of genealogists to go beyond our ancestors’ basic facts and bring their life journeys “to life” through the power of storytelling. He encouraged researchers to explore the twists and turns; dilemmas and decisions; obstacles and opportunities; and tests and triumphs our ancestors faced. It is through these events that we will uncover the best stories.

Bill provided several compelling reasons to become storytellers. Stories require us to go beyond the basic facts. Stories truly engage the audience. Stories also provide context — the why — of our ancestors’ actions. Stories are our legacy

to future generations. And Bill believes that writing stories helps us in our research.

While Bill acknowledged that good story telling is an acquired skill, he provided a framework called **HAPPI!** that can serve as an outline to gather the nuggets for a good story. He demonstrated the **HAPPI!** model by deftly recounting stories about his grandfather, Perry Ogden Cole.

H is for History. Tie in some historical tidbits — people or events — to frame your story.

A is for Action. A good story has action. Action reveals the plot while drawing in your audience. Action can be dramatic, comedic, or intriguing.

P is for Place. Your audience wants to know where and when the action is occurring. By divulging the where and when early in your story, you provide important context that allows readers to imagine or visualize the action as it unfolds.

P is for Picture. While we’ve all heard the phrase, “A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words”, you can “paint a picture” for

your readers with words alone. Use descriptive language to help your audience visualize your ancestor and the event(s) you are describing.

I is for Interest. We need to engage our readers and create stories that hold their interest. Good stories offer readers a brief respite from life’s daily distractions.

Summing up the HAPPI! model, Bill quoted Irish author, Michael Scott who said, “A good story is always a journey. It is about taking the journey, the people the hero meets along the way and how they change him or her. All stories are journeys. They don’t have to be shocking or outrageous: they simply have to be interesting.”

In the second part of his talk, Bill provided tips on finding stories. He strongly encouraged storytellers to travel to the hometown of an ancestor whenever possible. He described two genealogical trips — one to South Dakota, another to Munich and the Czech Republic. Both trips uncovered important people and places — strokes of serendipity — only possible by being there. He added that sometimes finding the story is the story.

(cont’d. on page 6)

↓

Need HELP
with your Research?
Zoom sessions
free to members

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with FGS volunteers
to move you forward!

More information
at falgen.org


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“ALLEGIANCE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF WILLIAM EUSTIS”

(cont'd. from page 2)

when Benedict Arnold's treachery was discovered.

He became so disillusioned with medicine – it hadn't changed since the Greeks – that he went into politics, where he could do more. He served in the House of Representatives for ten years.

Letters, documents, and diaries were vital to Tamsen's research. Eustis had no heirs, and his wife didn't save anything. So Tamsen had to find letters he and his friends wrote (in 18th century script) at the Library of Congress and Mass. Historical Society, a great source. She learned you can read microfiche for no more than three hours, or your eyes fall out!

One letter from Eustis, an apprentice to Dr. Warren at the time, mentioned trying to get a thief's body from the gallows in Boston, which, though useful for dissection, was illegal

and opposed by the church.

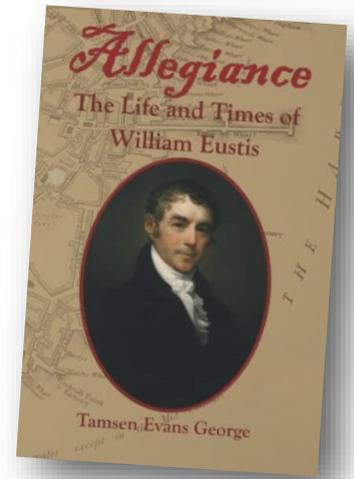
Tamsen highly recommends using book footnotes. Because of one, she found an Aaron Burr letter to William Eustis in the Louisiana State University. She learned how helpful librarians are when one at the New York Historical Society said, “I think we have a folder of letters not indexed.” In it were 27 original letters!

She wanted to find what motivated people and questioned allegiance and decision making. Did someone's idea benefit the whole or just his own advancement and personal wealth? Benedict Arnold won the battle of Saratoga, making the French allies. When he switched sides he became a traitor, or did he? Maybe he realized his error in leaving his mother country and became a loyal British citizen. But he never got the recognition he

sought from the British because they didn't trust a traitor. What is treason? Devoted to the idea of liberty and freedom from England, technically the Founding Fathers became traitors when they wrote the Declaration of Independence. We can ask how our ancestors made decisions and how transformative those were.

Eustis married his wife when she was 30 and he was 56. They had a good life together and traveled in Europe. He bought the Shirley house after he retired from Washington. Tamsen learned Eustis carried a note in his pocket that, if found dead, he wanted to be buried with his mother in Lexington.

Tamsen had so many more fascinating, behind-the-scenes stories from history. Watch the recording of this talk for more. See on “Note” page 2.



Find all the latest updates on FGS events any time Online. See the Calendar at [falgen.org!](http://falgen.org)

SOCIETY BOARD LOOKS TOWARD THE FUTURE

Having no response to a recent request for volunteers from the membership and having received President Jerry Luby's resignation due to health, the board of directors has voted to install Tim Martin as Interim President and Ralph Wadleigh as Interim Vice President. Ralph will continue as Secretary. The



rest of the board remains stretched and is hoping interested people will step forward. They conducted planning sessions in January and are excited about

continuing the society's work. Falmouth Genealogical Society has been strong for 38 years and is worth continuing. It's not too late to join this dedicated board in leading us forward for another 38 years. **Would you consider volunteering to help in any way?**

SINCE 1985

**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**

PO Box 2107
 East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
 Website: www.falgen.org

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Publicity/Dottie Priestley
Technology/Tim Martin

The Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

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THE POWER OF STORY

(cont'd. from page 4)

When travel isn't possible, he suggested other ways to find powerful stories:

Bill suggested reviewing history books and periodicals that relate to the place and era of your ancestors. He urged storytellers to look beyond published genealogies to histories, including first-hand accounts. Church, town, and court records can also provide context and stories. He also encouraged the use of online resources such as FamilySearch, Ancestry, and MyHeritage.

He strongly encouraged interviewing family members — and recording those conversations. He shared several open-ended questions that help family members reminisce. Examples included: "What was your most memorable school experience?", "What is

your most vivid childhood memory", and "Is there anything you regret not doing or trying? For recording, Bill uses a Sony ICD-PX 140 with a USB port for easy downloading onto a computer. He also uses the Otter.ai software that provides audio transcription of these recordings.

Bill closed his presentation by challenging listeners to tell their ancestors' stories. Remember:

Everyone Has a Story. Everyone Loves a Good Story.

What's Your Story?



IN OTHER SOCIETY NEWS

Falmouth Genealogical Society recently joined **Falmouth Chamber of Commerce** to network and publicize events.

Also, the board of directors voted to send a letter through Massachusetts Genealogical Society (MGS) to US Citizenship & Immigration Services **opposing its proposed fee increase** to \$240 for one record. A former proposed increase of \$643 per record was opposed with great success. MGS says,

"All Americans have rights to access information kept by local, state, and federal governments. They permit all citizens to watch the work that government does on their behalf." The Massachusetts Genealogical Council (MGC) is the umbrella organization representing Massachusetts genealogists, historical societies, and individuals concerned about records preservation and free and unfettered access to civil records.

CHOOSING GENEALOGICAL SOFTWARE"

(cont'd. from page 3)

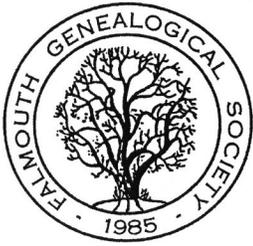
of your current program and importing it into the new program.

She provided two websites from which to find software: www.cyndislist.com/software and www.americanancestors.org/tools/genealogical-software.

A Q&A session followed in which McClure was coaxed to reveal her personal software

favorites. For MAC users she prefers Reunion. For Windows users she prefers Roots Magic followed by Family Tree Maker and Legacy.

Handout copies and a recording of her talk are located in the members section of the FGS website, www.falmouthgenealogysociety.org.

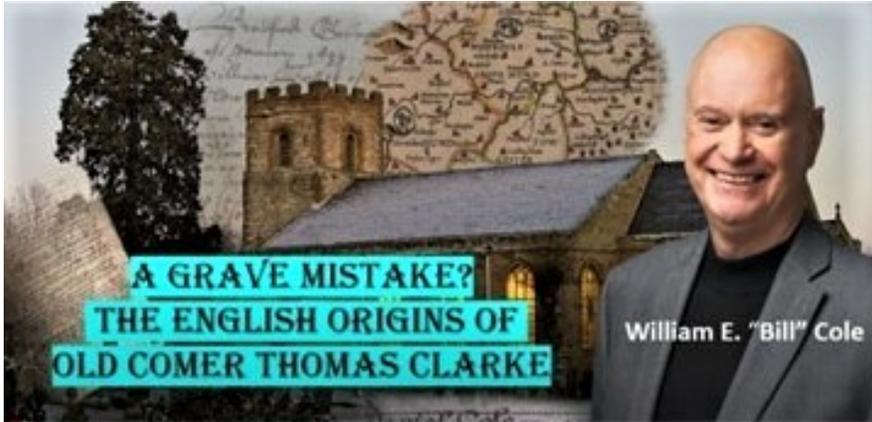


SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

JULY-SEPT 2023

VOL. 35, ISSUE 3



By Tim Martin

Bill Cole was a featured speaker at the New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) 2023 conference allowing us to snag the West Coast resident while he was still in our area for a live talk in Falmouth on May 13th: “A Grave Mistake? The English Origins of Old Comer Thomas Clark.” Back on March 11th, Bill gave us a virtual talk via Zoom titled “Breathe Life into Your Genealogy with the

Power of Story,” a motivating talk regarding how to better build the story about our ancestors. The May talk is drawn from research expounded in his new book, “Puritans, Plagues and Promises – Cole, Clarke, and Collier in England and America.” The book is thoroughly researched, with index, footnotes and many images and sources not published before. In the talk Bill first mentioned several cases of

(cont'd. from page 2)

JILL MORELLI RETURNS FOR “ROOTLESS: A RETROSPECTIVE LOOK AT AMERICA’S FASCINATION WITH ITS ANCESTRY”

By Caroline Anderson

In her ninth annual presentation to the FGS, Jill Morelli led us on a 1000-year journey outlining the history of genealogy. She provided insight on broad societal trends and events that led to spikes of interest — “genealogical fever.” She advised that a historical retrospective must acknowledge that “genealogy carries some baggage” and outlined how some trends were inspired by darker motivations or led to false

theories. As she consulted her crystal ball, she forecast a genealogical future of rapidly expanding access to information and nearly infinite advances in technology.

While Jill focused her presentation on genealogy in America, she briefly outlined earlier examples. The book of Genesis, chapter 5 provides Adam’s lineage. Chinese genealogical records called jiapu

(cont'd. on page 3)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

*Falmouth Public Library
Hermann Foundation Room
AND Virtually via Zoom
Unless Noted Otherwise
See Falgen.org for
Updated Info*

Sat., July 8 @ 10:30 am

“US Citizenship & Immigration Services Genealogy Resources”

*With Alec Ferretti, Director
Association of Professional
Genealogists*

Sat., August 12 @ 10:30 am

“Dive Deeper into FamilySearch”

With Annette Burke Lyttle

Sat., Sept. 9 @ 10:30 am

“Write as You Go!”

*With Elissa Scalise Powell
Certified Genealogist*

October Date

To Be Announced

Sat., Nov. 18 @ 10:30 am

Annual Joint Meeting with
Cape Cod Genealogical Soc.

**“Google Search Strategies for Common Surnames”
and**

“Inspiring Ways to Capture the Interest of Non-Genealogists”

*With Lisa Louise Cooke
Writer/Producer/Host*

*@St. Peter’s Episcopal
Church, Osterville*

*Watch for Instructions to
Order Lobster or Chicken
Roll with chips, cookie, drink
Or bring your own lunch*

The Massachusetts Genealogical Council

*offers programs
See MGC Home*

(massgencouncil.org)



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BILL COLE ASKS IF THERE WAS “A GRAVE MISTAKE”

(cont'd. from page 1)

gravestone inscription mistakes among his own ancestors. In 2015 he launched a project to investigate the origins of his Cole lineage in England. His research was greatly aided by UK archivist Nicola Waddington and UK transcriber/translator Simon Neal. Several of these new discoveries are described in Bill Cole’s Mayflower Descendant Vol. 69 No. 1 submission “The English Origins of Job, John, Daniel and Ruth Cole”.

Among the relatives involved is an “Old Comer” Thomas Clarke with gravestone at Burial Hill in Plymouth inscribed “Here lyes ye body of Mr Thomas Clark aged 20 years departed this life March ye 24th 1697.” “Old Comer” refers to an immigrant to the Plymouth Colony on one of the first three

vessels Mayflower, Fortune, or Anne. In researching Thomas Clarke (1587-1610) of the London area who married Jane Yates (1587-????) their descendants include a son Thomas Clarke born 1608, who Bill proves through analysis of several sources, is the Thomas Clark at Burial Hill Plymouth – his age at death being about 89 rather than 98 as inscribed.

Bill discussed a theory he is working on regarding Mayflower passenger Richard Clarke about whom almost nothing is known except his parent’s names and his presence as a passenger. He died the first winter leaving no descendants. He cites a 1610 will by Thomas Clarke the father of Old Comer Thomas Clarke, who gives his bible to his brother Richard Clarke, Jane Clarke’s brother

-in-law; this Jane marrying William Collier in 1611 who was an original Merchant Adventurer. This may well be the Mayflower passenger Richard Clarke, not proven but an excellent lead to follow and research.

In research Bill espouses the virtue of the K.I.S.S.S. principle in defining research goals: Keep it short, simple, and specific. This helps limit the confusion associated with broad goals, aids in the tracking of progress, and better allows for taking breaks that don’t disrupt the research process as much. Bill’s website is www.passionategenealogist.org and is well worth a visit. You can learn more about his research, purchase his books, videos, and copies of journal submissions.

Note:

For more on meeting topics, members can access speakers’ notes and most presentations on YouTube. Go to the Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. website, fagen.org, click on Membership, and log into the Members Only section. Go to Speaker Notes and Videos. If you need the password, please contact Tim Martin at fgsvicepresident@gmail.com.

Note: FGS YouTube videos are indexed into chapters. This allows the viewer to identify named segments and quickly go to desired ones.

TIM MARTIN’S ELECTION AS PRESIDENT AMONG RECENT LEADERSHIP CHANGES



TIM MARTIN
PRESIDENT

At the Annual Meeting of Falmouth Genealogical Society held on June 10th, Tim Martin was elected President. Tim had been serving as Interim President for several months. Also elected was board member Clyde Tyndale to Vice President.

Earlier, at a board of directors meeting, Caroline Anderson was appointed to serve as an at-large member of the board. We welcome her and look forward to supporting all in future endeavors.

AMERICA'S FASCINATION WITH ITS ANCESTRY

(cont'd. from page 1)

(dating to 1100 BC) were created to document the male lineage of each family and were first used to identify a member of the ruling class and, in turn, justify his position. Likewise, in medieval times, family ancestries were used as proof of noble blood — and these genealogies sometimes changed when a new ruler came to power.

America's interest in and pursuit of family ancestry varied by time period, group, and societal trends.

Colonial Americans felt that genealogy was at odds with the Age of Reason and the country's newly defined sense of equality and focus on the future. The pre-Civil War era in genealogical research is defined by elitism and a focus on Puritan lineage.

Genealogical history in the late 1800s was influenced by the Civil War, westward migration, the country's Centennial, and increased immigration. Interest spiked in the late 1880s and produced a rise in Anglo-Saxon Heraldry Societies; and in response, excluded groups created their own Societies.

The early 1900s ushered in the professionalism of ge-



JILL MORELLI, CG® CGL
(CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST AND
CERTIFIED GENEALOGICAL
LECTURER)

nealogical research — stressing the scientific method, use of primary sources, and proper documentation and citation. This period also coincided with Gregor Mendel's work on the Laws of Heredity and the study of eugenics. While proven wrong, eugenic research was pervasive and represents the darker side of genealogy.

The bicentennial and the publication of Alex Haley's, *Roots* renewed interest. This period of interest was supported by the advent of personal computing and the establishment of key resources like Ancestry, Family Search, Rootsweb, and Cyndi's List.

Today, there is a "perfect storm" for genealogical research: personal interest, availability of historical records and technological advances.

Jill's crystal ball predications can be summarized as more and improved:

More online records in more languages with more focus on Asian-Pacific, African and Eastern Europe record sets.

More online courses and conferences.

More photos, including animation—even holograms.

Improved ethnicity estimates, search engines, and indexing. Advanced technology to decipher handwriting and suggest translations.

Improved analysis: build tree for you, probability of solution validity, google maps planning research trips.

Improved DNA tools with better algorithms.

In closing, Jill encouraged all genealogists to embrace these—and future—boundary-pushing advances in record accessibility, technology, and DNA analysis to improve the quality of our work and to enhance our story-telling ability.



Welcome Members

The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society this quarter:

Alice Tow
James Tow

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at upcoming meetings.



Need HELP
with your Research?

Zoom sessions
free to members

Team Up!

with FGS volunteers
to move you forward!

More information
at falgen.org

**Or simply drop in
any Tuesday at the
Reference Room
Falmouth Public
Library
from 2:00 - 4:00 pm**



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**Falmouth
Genealogical
Society, Inc.**PO Box 2107
East Falmouth, MA 02536-2107
Website: www.falgen.org**Officers***President*

Tim Martin

Vice President

Clyde Tyndale

Treasurer

Ray Howe

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Ralph Wadleigh

Committees/Chairs*Finance*/Ray Howe*Help Sessions*/Tim Martin*Membership*/Marguerite Sullivan*Newsletter*/Dottie Priestley*NERGC*/TBD*Publications*/Dottie Priestley*Publicity*/TBD*Technology*/Tim Martin

The Falmouth Genealogical Society, Inc. Newsletter is published four times a year and is dedicated to news, events and ideas that will help members enhance their genealogical research.

Editor: Dottie Priestley
rpriest1567@comcast.net

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2023 AND 2025 NERGC CONFERENCES

By Tim Martin

The 17th New England Regional Genealogical Consortium (NERGC) Conference occurred this year from May 3-6 at the Mass Mutual Center in Springfield, MA. Falmouth Genealogical Society is one of the 25 charter members of the NERGC, which was incorporated in 2006.

The conference is usually presented every two years by the 21 societies currently participating; each society sending representatives to quarterly planning meetings, contributing conference startup money, providing volunteers to manage the various conference events and procuring one hired speaker.

High-quality speakers are engaged, topical tracks defined, vendors invited, lodging and venues booked, food arranged, all resulting in a successful conference.

Due to the pandemic the 2021, the biennial conference was a virtual-only event over a two-month period. The May 2023 conference was a return to the live-only format.

Exact attendance for 2023 was roughly 500, about half of the attendance of pre-pandemic conferences. Seven FGS members attended the 2023 conference, three of whom were also members of and representing the Cape Cod Genealogical Society. This event is also very important for facilitating face-to-face contact with other researchers and vendor representatives.

Planning for the 2025 conference is in the initial phases. It is clear that large, in-person conferences such as NERGC will become increasingly expensive and are in competition with the growing availability of online content. Finding and implementing the unique strengths of a large in-person event, as well as considering live along with virtual attendance will all be under consideration for the 2025 NERGC conference.

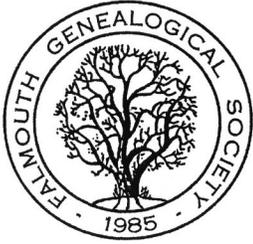
This is an event that all FGS members should consider attending as it is an excellent opportunity to learn from, and meet with, professional genealogists and many vendors catering to the genealogical community.

**DO YOU HAVE A
REVOLUTIONARY WAR
STORY?**

The Cape and Islands Historical Association is planning a publication for the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution in 2026. It will compile narratives about different ways in which Cape Codders were involved in the Revolution—events, individuals, political arguments, and more. If you have a narrative related to Cape Cod and the Revolution and would consider submitting it for consideration, you can discuss the idea with David Martin, who will edit the publication. He can be reached by email at davidmartindr@aol.com



HELP NEEDED
Are you free on
Monday, August 14
from 11 am—2 pm?
Help FGS earn \$\$\$
by placing stickers on
racers' bibs
at Falmouth High School.
It's fun & there's free pizza!
Email Ralph Wadleigh
whplar@comcast.net



SINCE 1985

FALMOUTH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. NEWS

OCT-DEC 2023

VOL. 35, ISSUE 4

WRITING AS YOU GO IS THE W.A.Y. TO GO

By Ralph Wadleigh

Falmouth Genealogical Society's (FGS) September 9, 2023, monthly meeting featured noted genealogical presenter and practitioner, Elisa Scalise Powell, C.G. who presented by Zoom her writing process entitled, "Writing As You Go is the W.A.Y. to Go for Research Reports." The process is as follows:

1. Understand the goal.
2. Create hypothesis or define a research question.
3. Analyze the current state of the problem and summarize it.
4. Identify all sources and repositories for information.
5. Design plan for accessing and examining.
6. Research and collect information.
7. Analyze and evaluate results.
8. Write conclusion along with suggestions for continuing.



ELISSA SCALISE POWELL
CERTIFIED GENEALOGIST

Elissa strongly recommended that the process begin with the preparation of a template into which the entire project can be constructed and stored. The template should contain the following sections: TO—the recipient; SUBJECT—who or what is the subject of the research; BACKGROUND SUMMARY—evidence you have as it pertains to the research question; GOAL—focused research

(cont'd. on page 2)

U. S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES GENEALOGY RECORDS

By Tim Martin

On July 8th, the quick-witted Alec Ferretti gave a talk from New York City via Zoom to our FGS hybrid audience assembled as usual at the Falmouth Public Library and via Zoom. This talk was about genealogically significant records held by the USCIS (United States Citizenship and Immigration Services), covering the additional detailed records of immigrants to USA since about 1906 not known to most genealogists. Prior to ~1820 immigra-

tion records were not kept systematically. The departure and arrival ports in some cases kept basic records, many of which may now be presumed lost.

Immigration to the USA was federalized in 1891. Ellis Island opened in 1892 – and there were many other USA ports of entry. Up until 1906 immigration was easily granted with few restrictions. The 1906 naturalization petition process was

(cont'd. on page 5)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

All Meetings Held
at Falmouth Public Library
Hermann Foundation Room
AND Virtually via Zoom
Unless Noted Otherwise
See Falgen.org for
Updated Info

Sat., Oct. 14 @ 10:30 am

"Artifacts Day"

FGS Members Showcase
Personal Artifacts

Sat., Nov. 18 @ 10:30 am

Annual Joint Meeting with
Cape Cod Genealogical Soc.
"Google Search Strategies
for Common Surnames" &
"Inspiring Ways to
Capture the Interest of
Non-Genealogists"

With Lisa Louise Cooke
Writer/Producer/Host

@St. Peter's Episcopal
Church, Osterville

Check www.falgen.org or
watch for an email with
directions to pre-order your
lobster or chicken roll with
chips, cookie, drink.

Or bring your own lunch.

Sat., Dec. 9 @ 10:30 am

"After You're Gone:
Future Proofing Your
Genealogy Research"

With Thomas MacEntee

Sat., Jan. 13 @ 10:30 am

"Finding What You Need
and Making the Most of
What You Find"

With Pam Vestal

The Massachusetts
Genealogical Council

offers programs

See [MGC Home](http://MGCHome)

(massgencouncil.org)



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WRITING AS YOU GO



(cont'd. from page 1)

Note:

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question; ANY RESTRICTIONS—time, repository access, etc.; REPOSITORIES—where you conducted the research; KEY FINDINGS OR EXECUTIVE SUMMARY—reasoning as to whether or not the research goal was met; RESEARCH NOTES—raw notes of the plan as they are examined as well as discussion of analysis of the evidence; FURTHER RESEARCH SUGGESTIONS; DOCUMENTS PROVIDED—citations in a source list; IMAGES AND DOCUMENTS—images of records and maps including their source citations.

Among this important content, Elissa sprinkled her talk with some good hints like

imbedding images included with their citations. This she termed O.H.I.O.—**Only Handle It Once!**

She recommended including narratives, timelines, charts and tables, maps, and that genealogical summaries be presented in NGSQ or register style. While Elissa did not detail which software tools she employs, she did mention Roots Magic as her genealogical database. She also obviously uses several word processing programs for building reports.

The talk handout, which can be found in the member's section of the FGS website, contains a valuable bibliography for aspiring writers, some volumes of which are

available in area CLAMS affiliated libraries. A recording of the talk is also available on the FGS website.

Another publication mentioned, "Only a Few Bones", by John Philip Colletta, is an excellent example of weaving genealogy into its historical and physical environment. It is not available on CLAMS but is available on Amazon and by loan from the writer.

One theme to be derived from this talk is: don't just collect, write. That's what your family and others want to see. They don't want the password to your family tree and all those papers and reference books you collected. They want the stories. Just write as you collect!

FOCUS ON RESEARCH—PATRIOTS TO MAYFLOWER PASSENGERS



By Caroline Anderson

Patriots to Passenger is an exciting and ongoing project by The Mayflower Society.

This project aims to help family genealogists connect their Revolutionary War Patriot with a Mayflower passenger. The *Patriots to Passenger* project is a growing published list of Revolutionary War Patriots who descend from Mayflower passengers.

The list currently contains over 4,000 names of confirmed and documented Patriots who descend from a Mayflower passenger.

This project also intends to build bridges between lineage societies like the Mayflower Society and the Sons of the American Revolution and Daughters of the American Revolution since they often share membership.

Our thanks to member Linda Heald for bringing this outstanding resource to our attention.

To access information about this project and to view the list, go to the Mayflower Society website at:

<https://themayflowersociety.org/genealogy/patriots-to-passengers/>.

DIVE DEEPER INTO FAMILYSEARCH

Annette Burke Lyttle gave an informative and detailed presentation on how to “dive deeper” into FamilySearch’s search capabilities to enhance our family ancestry research. She

noted that FamilySearch is run by The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and is free to all users by setting up an account at: www.familysearch.org/. With millions of genealogical records gathered from 1894 and continuing, Annette said FamilySearch is a treasure-trove for genealogists. That said, she cautioned family historians to use the information with care and verify accuracy with primary sources.

In short, she encouraged users to go beyond the simple name search to maximize results. Annette’s talk focused on searching by location and collection, using the FamilySearch catalog, and the Research Wiki. A major advantage of these advanced search techniques is that they will reveal both indexed and digitized collections. These digitized



ANNETTE BURKE LYTTLE, OWNER
HERITAGE DETECTIVE, LLC

collections are not yet indexed but can be viewed much like old microfiche records.

Search by Place—allows users to limit the search to only the collections for an ancestor’s location. By selecting a county, state, or country, your search results will provide a list of both the indexed and digitized collections available.

Find a Collection—allows users to limit the search by collection such as Massachusetts Land Records, 1620-1986, a digitized collection that can be browsed.

Family Search Catalog—allows users to search by place and keywords (and several other options) and discover records and collections that might not show up in a general search. In these searches, users might find county histories, land records,

church records and other printed materials.

Research WIKI—an ideal “first stop” when beginning a new research project. The Research WIKI is searched

by place—town, county, state, country or by genealogical topic. It contains articles on hundreds of topics, links to genealogy databases, websites and other resources, and research strategies.

Annette said that by using these advanced search capabilities, we will uncover records that will deepen our understanding of an ancestor’s life and will likely help us tackle difficult research questions—or perhaps knock down a brick wall.

Members are encouraged to view Annette’s talk on the FGS website to review her helpful “how to searches.” Go to falgen.org and select Membership in the Gold Tool Bar. In the drop-down menu, select Members Only and you will find recordings of recent presentations. If you need the new “Member Login,” please see the “Password for Members Only” article on page 5.

By Caroline Anderson



Need HELP
with your Research?

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at falgen.org

Or simply drop in
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Reference Room
Falmouth Public
Library
from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

MEMBERS TRACING FAMILY - PENELOPE MCGILL

By Caroline Anderson



In this new column, we want to feature you and your work tracing your family ancestry. We can interview you and write up a story — or you can submit a short study or photo.

The June 2023 McGill/Bean Family Reunion presented the perfect opportunity for Penelope McGill to share her research — and wonderful collection of photos — with extended family members. She chose to create the large-format presentation boards

for visual impact and to encourage participation by event attendees. In addition to providing a fun and interactive activity, guests helped to provide information on both ancestors and current generations of the family.



Welcome Members

The following individuals have joined Falmouth Genealogical Society this quarter:

Ellen McCabe
Diana Stadtmiller
Rich Stadtmiller

We appreciate your support and hope to see you at upcoming meetings.

FGS VOLUNTEERS SUPPORT THE ASICS FALMOUTH ROAD RACE

By Caroline Anderson

Ralph Wadleigh served as captain for the FGS volunteer team at the 51st ASICS Falmouth Road Race. He says, “Thank you to all of the FGS members and friends who helped to organize the 10,000 runner bibs for this outstanding community event.” Ralph added that this activity serves as an important fundraiser for non-profits like the FGS.

In their thank you message, race volunteer managers Kerri and Brian Brodie praised the 1,500

volunteers who help to make the race happen citing “positive attitudes, flexibility, and enthusiasm.”

Our thanks to Team FGS: Caroline Anderson, Eleanor Baldic, Martha Brennan, Diana Clark, Phyllis Day, Ingrid Frank, Jon Frank, Mary Beth Goodwin, Robert Gunning,

Cathy Gwynn, Ginny Howe, Ray Howe, Ann Keller, Patricia Kilday, Faith Lee, Deborah Martin, Timothy Martin, Penelope McGill, Regina Mullen, Clara Pires, Vasco Pires, Bob Priestley, Dottie Priestley, Kristine Reilly, Margaret Rioux, Barbara Silva, Dennis Sullivan, Sandra Sullivan, Kathy Taylor,

Judy Wadleigh, Wenda Windbigler, Deborah Winograd, and Ruth Zwirner. (List provided by ASICS Falmouth Road Race. Apologies if we missed anyone.)



A ROOM FULL OF BUSY MEMBERS!

CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION RECORDS (cont'd. from page 1)

then instituted – with a Declaration of Intention, Petition for Naturalization and finally a Certificate of Naturalization if granted. These are commonly available and seen by most genealogists. The USCIS forms discussed by Alec are in addition to these and often provide much more information, but are only available by a rather lengthy process from the USCIS.

The Immigration and Naturalization Service was formed in 1933 and in 1992 courts stopped processing naturalizations and INS became solely responsible. DHS was created in 2003 and divided into USCIS, ICE and Customs and Border Protection. The USCIS should have records of every naturalization after Sept. 1906, records of every immigrant arrival after June 1924 and records of every alien who was a permanent resident after July 1940. Naturaliza-

tion Certificate Files exist from 1906 to 1956 with photographs after 1929

Visas started to be required for USA entry in 1924, after 1944 these are rolled into the A Files. These contain a photograph, birth certificate, and marriage certificate all from the home country. From 1940-1944, Alien Registration forms AR-2 are available and also very detailed. From 1929-1944, if an immigrant had arrived after 1906 and before the 1924 Visa requirement, and desired naturalization and did not have a valid entry record, a Registry File would be generated. These generally consist of correspondence, interviews and affidavits showing by when the immigrant had arrived.

Obtaining a file from USCIS will usually entail two steps: Step 1 requires \$65 for an Index Search and Step 2 requires another \$65 for a Record Request. Step 2 would only



be pursued if Step 1 was successful and generated a Case ID. Therefore a successful (2-step) USCIS record request currently costs \$130. This process can currently be expected to take from 1 to 2 years.

Alec suggested the “Manifest Markings” web page at www.jewishgen.org as a means for interpreting markings added to ship passenger manifests by immigration authorities: <https://www.jewishgen.org/InfoFiles/Manifests/>

Researchers can also refer to the Immigration page at the fabulous FamilySearch Wiki: https://www.familysearch.org/en/wiki/United_States_Emigration_and_Immigration.

We're glad you're a member and value your membership!



NEW PASSWORD FOR “MEMBERS ONLY”

As a member of the FGS, you have access to the “Members Only” Section on our website: www.falgen.org. In this section, you'll find the most current newsletters, the membership directory,

member genealogy papers, video recordings of selected monthly talks, and speakers' handouts.

To access this section requires a password which was updated on 1 Septem-

ber 2023. To ensure data security, the password is not shared through email. To request the 2024 password, please contact Tim Martin, FGS President (and webmaster) by phone or text at (630) 740-0881.

By Caroline Anderson

Note: FGS YouTube videos in the Members Only section are indexed into chapters. This allows the viewer to identify named segments and quickly go to desired ones.

SINCE 1985

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PHOTO SLEUTHING

By Caroline Anderson



Can you help us return this photo of Seth Bowman to his family? It was recently found in a donation to the Falmouth Service Center's Hand in hand Thrift Shop.

Clues from the photo: it is labeled "Uncle

Seth Bowman. Grandma Hammond's Brother"

Research leads us to believe that this is the Seth Bowman born on 6 May 1869 in Falmouth; he died in 1917. He was the son of Moses Hatch Bowman (1836-1917) and Abbie Lothrop (1835-1905). Seth had sev-

eral siblings: Orville W. Bowman, Fenelon E. Bowman, Leroy Bowman and Mary A. Bowman (Abt. 1874-1947).

Seth married Flora Chappell (Abt. 1862-?) on 14 February 1892 in Falmouth. Their only daughter Iona May was born in 1892 and died in 1895. Census documents list him as a carpenter.

We believe that Mary A. Bowman is the "Grandma Hammond" noted on the photo. She married Harry Burnside Hammond (1866-1946) in 1892 and had three children Esther Bennett Hammond (m. Garry Pierce), George Burnside Hammond, and Robert L. Hammond. It appears that these siblings raised their families in Barnstable County.

If you can help identify Seth's family, please contact Caroline McKee Anderson, Membership Director, at fgsmembership@gmail.com. If you'd like to help identify future photos, contact Caroline.

ON THE ROAD WITH FGS

By Caroline Anderson



The Falmouth Genealogical Society joined other local nonprofit organizations in the Marketplace at the Barnstable County Fair in July. Tim Martin, FGS President, created an inviting and interesting exhibit booth encouraging fair-goers to connect with their family and history. Tim answered questions, did U.S. Census lookups, and searched for individuals' grandparents in the world family tree. Watch for FGS at other community events.

In Memoriam

We recently learned that FGS member Patricia Beckenhaupt died on 26 January 2023 after a short illness.

Patricia enjoyed a long career in health care and is remembered as a champion of public health.

We extend our condolences to her husband Ken Beckenhaupt, her daughters Laura and Kathleen, her son Raymond, and their families.

Find all the latest updates on FGS events any time online at the falgen.org Calendar!